

FOR THE MEN AND WOMEN WHO
THULE
821st Air Base Group

—
SERVE AT THE TOP OF THE WORLD
TIMES
Thule AB, Greenland

September 2007

Volume 7

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Commander praises Team Thule

Col. Lee-Volker Cox

821st ABG commander

It's been six weeks since arriving at Thule and one word keeps coming to mind, "WOW!" I am extremely impressed with Team Thule and the outstanding work and dedication you demonstrate every day. From the power plant to the port, the Community Center to Hilltop, BMEWS to Detachment 3, finance to the fire department, security control to the support squadron and headquarters building, I've met motivated professionals: active duty, contractors, Americans, Danes, Greenlanders and Canadians. I am honored to serve with all of you.

You definitely know how to do your job and the mission. Unfortunately, in today's constrained budget and manning environment, each of us is being asked to do more and improve efficiencies. At Thule, the impact of reductions is multiplied due to our remoteness and inability to quickly and easily get support from the outside world. We have taken nearly \$7 million in contract cuts since Oct. 1, 2006 – that is more than 10 percent.

We eliminated the fat, sliced through the muscle and are now cutting the bone. I need your ideas and initiatives to develop more efficient processes and programs. Please share your ideas with your supervisors or stop me in the hallway or at the Top of the World Club. Together we can make Thule a better place.

See **COMMANDER**, Page 3

Twilight at Thule



Photo by Col. Lee-Volker Cox

Aug. 20 marked the end of Thule's longest day with the first sunset in almost four months. The sun last rose on April 23 and circled in the sky for approximately 2,855 hours. The days will rapidly get shorter until Oct. 31, when the sun will only be up for a little more than an hour before entering Thule into darkness for 102 days.

Leadership Perspective: How's the morale in your unit?

Capt. Russell Hunt
821st SFS commander

Have you ever been asked, "How's the morale in your unit?" Probably every one of us has been asked that question at one time or another. The problem with this question is how we define the word 'morale.'

When most people hear the word morale they think their unit is supposed to be filled with smiling faces and generally happy people. On the other end of the spectrum some would think that good morale is defined by how well disciplined a squadron is.

What I have learned is that morale is not a single set of emotions or actions amongst a squadron's members. Morale is like a crystal clear pool of water on a hot summer's day. It is something that from the outside a person says, "I want to be part of that."

Morale isn't always about making your people happy, but instead providing an environment that they can be proud of. Just like a clear pool of refreshing water, a squadron must be tended to in order to keep it clean and inviting.

Sometimes this means using techniques such as discipline and encouragement to ensure everyone is within standards and progressing in the right direction. In my opinion, it should be a balance of the two. Discipline is necessary, but encouragement is, too.

Supervisors are the megaphones for Airmen accomplishment. When squadron members see and hear of one another progressing and achieving goals, it builds pride. That pride is carried across the faces of every member of the unit and the overarching concept of morale is developed. And just like a refreshing pool of water, people say, "I want to be a part of that." No one wants to be a part of a unit that fails to

succeed or is full of people who constantly get in trouble. At the same time, members who are consistently 'beaten' on by their supervisors aren't productive either. I once had a commander who was convinced that the more discipline he handed out, the better morale was in his unit. We were all pretty sure his motto was, "Beatings will continue until morale improves." I did not have a single first-term Airmen re-enlist in that squadron. How can anyone consider that to be a productive Air Force environment?

So ask yourself, "Am I a part of an environment that people want to be involved in?" If you are a supervisor, ask, "Do I foster discipline, teamwork, pride and success in my unit to the point that others say they want to be a part of my team?" Remember that supervisors fulfill a multitude of roles: leader, follower, team builder, encourager, disciplinarian and sometimes cheerleader. So, how's the morale in your unit?

SHIRT TIP: Choose your Wingman wisely

Master Sgt. Chester Spires
821st ABG first sergeant

During my short my time in the Air Force, I have witnessed the 'Wingman' concept transition into the mainstream of our culture of responsible choices. The Wingman's influence has evolved and strengthened over the years. Early on, their responsibilities were limited to bars and clubs, where the hope was that they would 'have your back' if needed. They could also be counted on to have your best interest in mind during engagements with the opposite sex.

Today, the expectations are higher, and choosing a good Wingman is often more challenging than expected. Among the many positive traits and qualities a Wingman must have, the most important is reliability. A Wingman must be that one, quintessential person who will always be there for you. Their job may be as simple as lending an ear after a bad day or giving you a ride after a night of partying.

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They may be the one to provide that push needed to pass the fitness test or take the time to help with that 15-page term paper due tomorrow for English Composition 201.

Regardless of the task, your Wingman can be counted on to help in some way, shape or form. A Wingman must also be counted on to be reliable even when it is contradictory to the actions or opinion of the other person.

My wife will often ask me, "How does this dress look on me?" While I would do anything for my lovely wife, I am not a good Wingman for her. Since I enjoy the bed over the couch, I always answer, "It looks great," regardless of how it really appears. A good Wingman does not have the same obligations. Remember that your Wingman should be counted on to provide honest feedback when needed, regardless if asked or not – so choose wisely. You must also be able to trust that your Wingman will provide a rational, honest perspective of a situation or be the first to know when it is time to call it a night at the club. Don't forget, key to having a Wingman is accepting these actions and having confidence that your Wingman is there for you.

SAFETY

REMINDER:

**Arctic Foxes may look
cute at times, but they
are very dangerous.**



**Do not feed the
'Archies'!**

**Many have rabies
and will bite.**

COMMANDER from Page 1

The port season is over and about two weeks ago we had our first sunset. What that means is you don't have many more Thule Tripping opportunities, and in just a few days we will be entering our storm season. Now is the time to start getting prepared. Make sure you have all of your winter gear and it fits. Think about what you plan to do when a severe Delta-level storm hits and you are stuck in the dorms for several days. Do you have some food to eat, books to read and a fully charged phone card to tell your family and friends that you're at the 'Top of the World' in the middle of the worst storm you've ever seen? Perhaps most important, do you have a wingman who will check in with you?

Your wingman is also important for another unique Thule phenomenon, no sun. The dark season starts next

Chief's Corner

Chief Master Sgt. Nathalie Swisher
821st ABG command chief

It seems like just yesterday when I took my first assignment overseas to a remote location. At the time I was an airman first class and only 20 years old. I was headed to Florennes Air Base, Belgium. Yes, that's right, a remote tour in Europe.

We lived in 'bolt togethers' – temporary buildings where six Airmen shared one room. Community restrooms were at the opposite end of the hallway. Our Base Exchange was about the size of an 18-wheeler. Our club was really small. Pizza, hot dogs, hamburgers and French fries were the only items on the menu. We didn't have a community center. We were lucky if we went to the chow hall and got any choice. AT&T phone centers didn't exist, but we could make a morale call home once every two weeks through the base operator. Computers – what were they? American Forces Network – what was that? Every Wednesday evening we had mandatory in-house-training at 6 p.m. Life back in those days was certainly much different than today. A lot has changed in the Air Force, too. Thule is now my third remote tour, and each tour since that first one has been better than the one before.

I know some of you didn't volunteer to come here. However, don't let that discourage you from having a great assignment. There are two things I recommend you *don't* do while you're here. One, don't stay cooped up in your room all the time. That's no fun! And two, don't count down on a 'donut of misery' or shorttimer's calendar the number of days you have left until you PCS. Time will surely drag out for you if you do.

So how do you survive your remote tour at Thule? Here are a few tips and what I consider the ABCs to help get you through the year.

See **CHIEF**, Page 7

month when the sun goes down and won't rise for 102 days. Everyone handles it differently, but it is a challenge no matter who you are. During the winter, it is easy to fall into a routine of going to work, eating at Dundas and staying in your room. It is important to get out and do something. If you have any ideas for activities or quality of life improvements, let me know. Chances are someone else will be interested, too.

'Ultima Thule' is an amazing place. The beauty of nature surrounds us. The support of our Team Thule family keeps us safe. Our space superiority mission is cutting edge. Let's make the time we have up here our best assignment ever. Stay safe, focus on the mission and discover new ways to have fun.

Thule Spotlight

- **Senior Airman Olivia Wimbley, 821st Security Forces Squadron, and Airman Gino Carruitero, 821st SFS, were married at the Thule Air Base Chapel Aug. 16.**

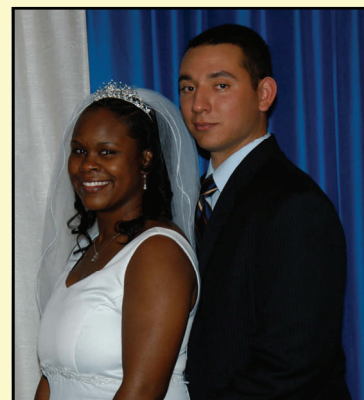


Photo by Capt. Charles Holmes

The Thule Times wants to recognize your accomplishments. If you would like to submit something for the Thule Spotlight column, please e-mail it to 821abg.pa@thule.af.mil or call 629-5678.

Unique mission passes through Thule

1st Lt. Nicole Langley

821st ABG Public Affairs

A Canadian CC-130 could be spotted in the skies over Thule Air Base Wednesday, as it made multiple trips to and from Canadian Forces Station Alert – the northernmost permanently inhabited settlement in the world – transporting supplies and passengers.

Canadian aircraft passing through Thule isn't necessarily unique. However, the crews on those aircraft are typically Canadian.

The pilots and navigator on this aircraft, though, were all American.

Captains Brian Carroll, Jason Priddle and John Hayes, officers in the U.S. Air Force-Canadian Forces Personnel Exchange Program, are currently stationed at Canadian Forces Base Trenton, located in Ontario, approximately two hours east of Toronto, and carry out all aspects of the jobs their Canadian counterparts would do. Although completely coincidental, all three exchange officers were scheduled for the same mission.

It's definitely odd, but everyone was available, explained Captain Hayes, the mission's navigator.

The exchange program, which has been in existence since shortly after World War II, allows Airmen the opportunity to experience military life in locations around the world, while strengthening the bonds between the U.S. and countries in Europe, the Middle East, Africa, the Pacific and Latin America – including Canada.

"It's good to see how the rest of the world works," said Captain Priddle, regarding the benefits of the exchange program.

Once it was determined that the crew for this mission would be composed of three U.S. officers, the commander of the U.S. Air Force-Canadian Forces PEP, Lt. Col. Hans Kimm, received permission for both himself and Staff Sgt. Christopher Weber, U.S. Air Force-Canadian Forces PEP NCO in-charge and another exchange program participant, to join the crew for the trip.

With his office in the U.S. Embassy in Ottawa, Colonel Kimm explained that he doesn't regularly get to see his exchange program members at their various assignments across Canada.

"I'm extremely proud of these guys, seeing how they're integrated into the unit," said the colonel, after Wednesday's missions to Alert had been completed.

Although the crewmembers flying the aircraft were all American, the mission wasn't solely accomplished by exchange officers, explained the pilots. A Canadian flight engineer and four Canadian loadmasters contributed to the mission's success.



Photo by 1st Lt. Nicole Langley

Staff Sgt. Christopher Weber, U.S. Air Force-Canadian Forces Personnel Exchange Program NCO in-charge, Capt. John Hayes, PEP officer and CC-130 navigator, Capt. Jason Priddle, PEP officer and CC-130 pilot, Lt. Col. Hans Kimm, U.S. Air Force-Canadian Forces PEP commander, and Capt. Brian Carroll, PEP officer and CC-130 pilot pose in front of a Canadian CC-130 Aug. 22 at Thule Air Base, Greenland, after transporting supplies and passengers to Canadian Forces Station Alert, the northernmost permanently inhabited settlement in the world. The unique aspect of this mission was that the pilots and navigator flying the Canadian aircraft were all American.

Warm weather at Thule?



Although a sight to see when the temperature gauge on the 821st Air Base Group Headquarters Building registered 120 degrees Fahrenheit on Aug. 28, it was not quite that hot. The sun shining directly on the thermometer and the heat reflecting off the building's metal siding, made it appear warmer than the actual temperature.

Getting to know ...

Thule's newest commanders



12th Space Warning Squadron commander

Name: James M. Forand

Hometown: Auburn, Mass.

Years in Air Force: 17.5 years

Previous assignment: Chief of Land-Based Global Strike Capabilities, USSTRATCOM/J8

Favorite leadership principle: Challenge things that don't make sense, then lead the way to push the envelope and implement a better, smarter approach on behalf of the American people.

Favorite Air Force memory: Reciting the oath of office at commissioning ... and every time I've said or heard those words since.



821st Support Squadron commander

Name: Philip C. Hicks

Hometown: Milton, Fla.

Years in Air Force: 14 years

Previous assignment: Executive officer to the commandant, Air War College, Maxwell AFB, Ala.

Favorite leadership principle: Integrity

Favorite Air Force memory: Three-year assignment to Hickam AFB, Hawaii



821st Security Forces Squadron commander

Name: Russell T. Hunt

Hometown: Tifton, Ga.

Years in Air Force: 9 years

Previous assignment: Operations officer, 96th Security Forces Squadron, Eglin AFB, Fla.

Favorite leadership principle: "Positive projection equals positive perception." If you are excited about your people, the accomplishments in your unit and goals you are setting, others will be, too.

Favorite Air Force memory: At the top would definitely be my deployment to Iraq in 2005 as a company commander.



Detachment 3 commander

Name: Florian 'Flo' C. DeCastro

Hometown: Stuart, Fla.

Years in Air Force: 15 years — enlisted in 1992, attended U.S. Air Force Academy 1994-1998

Previous assignment: 22nd Space Operations Squadron, Schriever AFB, Colo.

Favorite leadership principle: Know that in every situation there are three sides: theirs, yours and reality. If you know yourself, the people and the mission, you cannot go wrong even in the face of adversity.

Favorite Air Force memory: Teaching survival and evasion tactics for two summers to U.S. Air Force Academy cadets during survival school/ SERE.

Top of the World

Marathon & Half-Marathon



Facing 25-knot winds whipping down from the polar ice cap, more than a dozen runners braved the arctic weather as they started the Annual Top of the World Marathon and Half-Marathon. A 13-mile loop took racers off the main base to Storm Shelter #3 before reaching a checkpoint at POGO, the Air Force Satellite Control Network's Detachment 3. From there, participants turned back towards the harbor, following the flightline until they reached the main base.

Within minutes of the runners departing the main base, the weather turned even worse. Rain began to fall, turning the dirt roads to a slippery red mud and temperatures dropped to the low 40s. For the next several hours, they not only faced personal fatigue, but also unforgiving and energy-draining conditions that would challenge even the best-prepared athletes.

Starting at the Fitness Center Tech Sgt. Sean McDowell, 821st Support Squadron, jumped to the front of the pack and never looked back, finishing the marathon with a personal best time of 3 hours, 42 minutes. Broadcasting live and covering the race from the world's northernmost FM stereo radio station, Senior Master Sgt. Kurt Schmidtman "The Hitman", did quick research and discovered that McDowell's time was faster than the first-ever timed marathon.

In the Half-Marathon, 2nd Lt. Donald Heaton, 12th Space Warning Squadron, completed one loop and crossed the finish line first.

In the half-marathon, 2nd Lt. Donald Heaton, 12th Space Warning Squadron, completed one loop and crossed the finish line first.



Tech Sgt. Sean McDowell finished the marathon with a personal best time of 3 hours, 42 minutes. It was discovered that McDowell's time was faster than the first-ever timed marathon. Ann Berthelesen was the first female to finish and earned second place overall for the half-marathon.

Shortly behind him was Ann Berthelesen, who was the first female to finish and earned second place overall in the half-marathon.

"I'm really impressed with everyone who came out and ran a marathon more than 700 miles inside the Arctic Circle. They epitomize the Team Thule can-do attitude," said Col. Lee-Volker Cox.

"We must depend on personal perseverance and our team members to get the job done. We have to tackle tough challenges from the weather to developing innovative solutions when you can't just run to the local store for supplies. Failure is not an option here."

CHIEF from Page 3

Acclimate immediately to your new environment. Find out where everything is at as soon as you arrive – your dorm, office, the gym, the dining hall, BX, etc. Meet your supervisor and co-workers. See who your neighbors are living beside you in the dorms. Unpack and get situated in your room. It's your home for the next year, so get comfortable. Have your sponsor show you the base and the surrounding areas. Before you go out each day, check the weather channel and dress appropriately. Have your cold weather and storm gear readily available. Learn what the storm conditions are and know what to do and where to go if a storm hits.

Be involved. Do something productive with your time. Take a class or complete an online course. Now is the perfect time to finish up your degree or professional military education. Work out at the fitness center to get in better physical shape. Join a sports team. Participate in Culture of Responsible Choices events. Hang out at game night. Volunteer to help out with your unit's advisory council or participate in the Thule Association of Professional Airmen. There are lots of things to do – it's all up to you.

Invest a little bit of time and effort to make a difference in your personal and professional life while you're here.

You'll feel better about yourself. **Communicate** and stay connected with your family and friends while you're away from home. Correspond via email. Sign your family members up for the Air Force Instant Messenger on the Air Force Portal. Call your loved ones on a regular basis. See the first sergeant if you need a calling card. If your family lives near a military installation, call the base operator there to transfer your call. Do something unheard of and write a letter or send a card – you'll be amazed how your own post office box will begin to fill up! Don't forget to squeeze in some extra time to make new friends.

Our quality of life in the Air Force has significantly improved since the days when I first came in. At Thule we live good! We're all provided with TVs, DVD players and DSN phone lines in our rooms. That's truly unique! If you think you have it bad at Thule, I'm here to tell you, you really don't. Many of our fellow Airmen have it worse off than we do – many right now are out in harm's way.

You've heard it before, but I'll say it again, assignments are what you make of them. Whether you volunteered or not, I hope Thule is your best assignment yet!

Storm Season begins Sept. 15

Now is the time to become familiar with the storm conditions and what to do when a storm occurs.

NORMAL: No severe weather forecasted; Normal operations

ALPHA: Hazardous weather within 12 hours; Review actions for storm conditions BRAVO, CHARLIE and DELTA

BRAVO: Winds greater than 25 knots, visibility less than 3/4 of a mile; Non-essential personnel restricted to base, buddy system mandatory for travel except vehicles with radio

CHARLIE: Winds greater than 35 knots, visibility less than 1/2 mile; Essential personnel remain at work, all others report to quarters and dorm manager, SOC authorizes all movement

DELTA: Winds greater than 50 knots, visibility less than 100 yards; Personnel shelter in place, NO other movement authorized

**Summertime fun**

Team Thule enjoyed a Culture of Responsible Choices event, in the form of kickball, Aug. 10.

Summer flashback



Col. Jay Raymond, 21st Space Wing commander, passes the guidon to Col. Lee-Volker Cox at the 821st Air Base Group change-of-command ceremony July 12.



Four giant bulldozers pulled the Air Force's only tugboat out of the water, to begin winter storage preparation. It will take several weeks to winterize the boat. For almost 11 months, the unique Ice Class Tugboat, designed to not only maneuver ships, but also push icebergs out of their paths, will remain ashore.



More than 60 Thule Team members participated in the annual Polar Bear Swim Aug. 11. After plunging into the ice cold water at Tugboat Beach, each participant received a t-shirt and certificate to recognize their accomplishment.





(Left to right) Lt. Col. John Blagreen, Danish Liaison Officer; Gen. Wolfgang Schneiderhan, Chief of Defense, Germany; Elke Schneiderhan; Pernille Helso; Gen. Hans Jesper Helso, Chief of Defense, Denmark; Reija Kaskeala; Gen. Juhani Kaskeala, Chief of Defense, Finland; Col. Lee-Volker Cox, 821st Air Base Group commander; and Cdr. Lars Holbaek, Aide-de-Camp to the Danish Chief of Defense, pose for a photo during the Chiefs of Defense visit to Thule Air Base Aug. 15-16.

Chiefs Of Defense

- **Denmark**



- **Germany**



- **Finland**



Greenland Home Rule



The Greenland Parliament Financial Committee visited Thule Air Base Aug. 8.

Pictured back row from left are: Jens Lars Fleischer, Committee deputy chairman; Lt Col. Mark Erickson, 821st ABG deputy commander; Jorgen-Ole 'Dino' Nielsen, Thule City Council; Otto Jeremiassen, Committee member; Lt. Col. John Blagreen, Danish Liaison Officer. Front row from left are: Col. Lee-Volker Cox, 821st ABG commander, Per Berthelsen, Committee member; Agathe Fontain, Committee member; and Augusta Salling, Committee chairman.



Commander emphasizes importance of leadership

Col. Lee-Volker Cox
821st ABG commander

“Do it right!” For me, those are three words a leader must live by. You heard me say them several times during my Commander’s Call. Since then, many of you have told me stories about when you did it right or saw someone not doing it right. You can’t be an Air Force leader if you aren’t doing it right.

Leadership embodies a diverse set of beliefs, characteristics and capabilities. An individual who properly balances these elements and willingly accepts the role as a leader will be accepted by the group as such. Leaders need not be the head of teams, corporations or governments. They can be at any level of the organization, either recognized or informal. Regardless of their position or situation, a leader *does the right thing for the right reasons, and does it the right way at the right time.*

The operative word is ‘right.’ It does not necessarily mean the correct method according to a checklist, expectations, political astuteness or ease of action. Rather, a leader must build his foundation on an ethical bedrock, an understanding of right and wrong, and the desire to do good. From strong ethics, a leader understands the importance of integrity, duty, honor, self-sacrifice, service and justice. This moral compass guides his judgment in doing the right thing.

However, before the right decision can be made, the leader must understand the situation, bringing to mind a helmsman of a giant sailing ship, guiding the vessel and its cargo safely to their destination. He must see the big picture; have the capacity to chart a path to the final objective; recognize and overcome obstacles; and have the vision

to change or create a new objective, re-routing his path, if necessary. The leader must be sensitive to the underflowing currents and forming storm clouds, the motives, needs and emotions of subordinates, superiors and potential adversaries, while keeping an eye on the mission horizon. By understanding the big picture and its underlying environment, the leader identifies the right reasons for doing the right thing.

Many noble causes experienced a hollow victory because the methods used were unethical. Therefore, a leader does the right thing the right way. He is more concerned about the greater good than appearances or his ego, maximizing team-member contributions by utilizing each person’s strengths and avoiding their weaknesses. This also entails giving people the authority and resources to make decisions in their areas of responsibility. The leader seeks out new and better ideas from varied, and possibly, unconventional sources. This includes listening to people who are not in the traditional decision-making positions and accepting initiatives undertaken by people at all levels. This does not imply that every decision is based on a vote. The leader has earned the group’s trust (superiors and subordinates) and is empowered to make decisions on his own, if the situation warrants it. The bottom line is a leader gives his people what they need to get the job done and then lets them do it. He works for a higher purpose, not for self, but for the betterment of the group. He knows the right way.

There is a time and place for everything, and it is incumbent on the leader to recognize the right time. The leader must not only identify the right time for action, but also the right time to lead. Timing, too soon or too late, can determine success or failure. Finally, a leader must know when to seize the reigns and lead, and when to follow. A true leader knows his limitations and will willingly defer to those more qualified or heed their advice, unless their motives, methods, objectives or actions are not guided by what is right. At that point, the leader must take a stand, for failure to do the right thing results in support for the wrong thing.

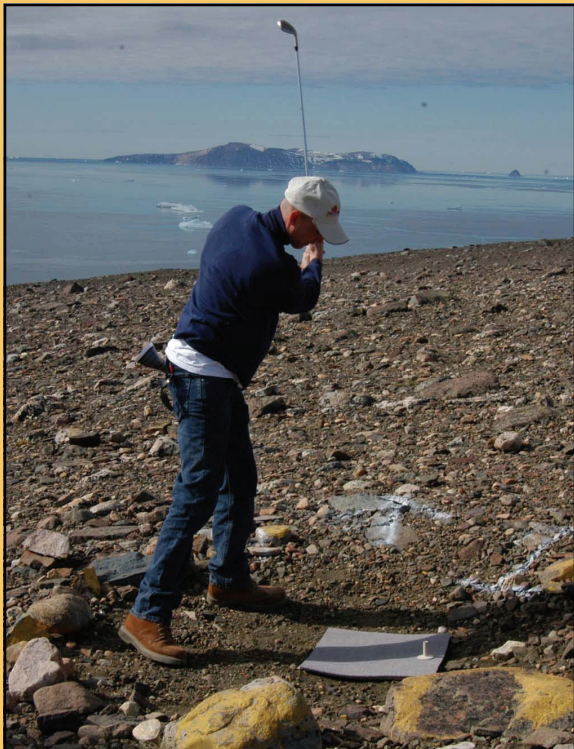
This brings the discussion full circle to the beginning. Anyone can be a leader, but they must lead by basing their decisions on ethical foundations. In fact, situations demand that people step forward and do the right thing for the right reason, by doing it the right way at the right time. Being a true leader is not easy, but being a leader is right.



SUMMER from Page 9



The Danish Island Commander and Chief Police Constable visited Thule Air Base Aug. 15-16. Back row from left are: Lt. Col. Mark Erickson, 821st Air Base Group deputy commander; Lt. Cmdr. Jesper Lynge; Senior Chief Petty Officer Johnny Parnset. Front row from left are: Lt. Col. John Blagreen, Danish Liaison Officer; Col. Lee-Volker Cox, 821st ABG commander, Chief Police Constable Steen Thomsen; Rear Adm. Henrik Kudsk; Karen Kudsk; Lt. Cmdr. Niels Christian Skou; John Hansen, Danish Police Inspector.



Chaplain Martin Adamson swings his club while playing in Thule Air Base's annual Dundas Golf Tournament July 7. More than a dozen Thule Team members participated in the event, which takes place each year on top of Mount Dundas.



Danish Naval Lt. Commander Jenskin Jensen of the patrol vessel, 'Agdleg,' explains his crew's mission, including search and rescue and fishery inspection and protection to Col. Lee-Volker Cox, 821st Air Base Group commander, and Lt. Col. Mark Erickson, 821st ABG deputy commander, Aug. 24, while the ship was in Thule's port for maintenance work.

Team Thule in action



Photos by 1st Lt. Nicole Langley



Texas Hold'em Poker Tournament

As a means of raising money for the Air Force 60th Anniversary Ball, the Thule Association of Professional Airmen hosted a Texas Hold'em Poker Tournament Sept. 1 at the Top of the World Club. With entry fees from more than 40 participants and money earned from tips, TAPA earned more than \$500, which will reduce the cost of tickets for Airmen on base.

Don't forget!

The Air Force 60th Anniversary Ball is Sept. 13 at 6 p.m. at the TOW Club.

The guest speaker will be Col. Robert Skinner, 50th Network Operations Group commander.



Photo by Tech Sgt. Sean McDowell

A group of onlookers intently watch the final table at the Texas Hold'em Poker Tournament held Sept. 1 at the TOW Club. The tournament champion was Staff Sgt. Michael Frankovich, 821st Security Forces Squadron.